

**SUBJECT: VIETNAM-ERA UNACCOUNTED FOR STATISTICAL REPORT**

1. **BACKGROUND:** The Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Service, and the Department of State report the current numbers of Americans who are unaccounted for in Southeast Asia:

Figure 1  
AMERICANS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

| <u>COMPONENT</u> | <u>COUNTRY OF LOSS</u> |            |            |           |          | <b>TOTALS</b> |
|------------------|------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|----------|---------------|
|                  | VN                     | VS         | LA         | CB        | CH       |               |
| ARMY             | 10                     | 502        | 110        | 35        | 0        | <b>657</b>    |
| NAVY             | 289                    | 93         | 31         | 2         | 8        | <b>423</b>    |
| MARINE CORPS     | 27                     | 205        | 22         | 14        | 0        | <b>268</b>    |
| AIR FORCE        | 246                    | 170        | 274        | 19        | 0        | <b>709</b>    |
| COAST GUARD      | 0                      | 1          | 0          | 0         | 0        | <b>1</b>      |
| CIVILIANS        | 0                      | 23         | 13         | 5         | 0        | <b>41</b>     |
| <b>TOTALS</b>    | <b>572</b>             | <b>994</b> | <b>450</b> | <b>75</b> | <b>8</b> | <b>2099 *</b> |

VN = VIETNAM, NORTH

VS = VIETNAM, SOUTH

LA = LAOS

CB = CAMBODIA

CH = CHINA

\* INCLUDES 468 AT SEA/OVER WATER LOSSES

2. **ACCOUNTING FOR U.S. PERSONNEL:** The Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii reports that since 1973, the U.S. has accounted for 484 Americans from Southeast Asia.

Figure 2  
AMERICANS ACCOUNTED FOR POST-1973

|              |               |
|--------------|---------------|
| VIETNAM      | 360*          |
| CHINA        | 2**           |
| LAOS         | 116           |
| CAMBODIA     | 6             |
| <b>TOTAL</b> | <b>484***</b> |

NOTES:

\* 31 remains from the Official Died in Captivity Lists provided by the Vietnamese in 1973

\*\* 2 ashes returned from China

\*\*\* 4 remains were recovered and turned over to the U.S. by indigenous personnel; 1 from North Vietnam and 3 from Laos. They are included in the country count.

3. **U.S. GOVERNMENT EFFORTS:** Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, the U.S. Government has acquired 20,677 reports possibly pertaining to Americans in Southeast Asia:

Figure 3  
**SUMMARY OF REPORTS**

|                           |               |
|---------------------------|---------------|
| FIRSTHAND LIVE SIGHTINGS  | 1,871         |
| HEARSAY SIGHTINGS REPORTS | 4,426         |
| CRASH/GRAVESITES          | 4,980         |
| DOGTAGS                   | 9,400         |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>20,677</b> |

a. Of the 1,871 firsthand reports received since 1975, 1,781 (95%) reports are resolved.

-- 1,249 (67%) reports were equated to Americans who are accounted for (i.e., PW returnees, missionaries, civilians jailed at various times for violation of Vietnamese codes).

-- 45 (2%) reports were correlated to wartime sightings of military personnel or pre-1975 sighting of civilians who remain unaccounted for.

-- 487 (26%) reports were determined to be fabrications.

b. The remaining 90 (5%) unresolved firsthand reports represent the focus of the U. S. Government analytical and collection efforts:

-- 79 (4%) pertain to Americans reported in a captive environment.

-- 11 (1%) reported sightings of Americans in a non-captive environment (i.e. working as truck drivers; married with Vietnamese family).

c. The following timeline presents an overview of unresolved firsthand sightings by the year of the sighting:

Figure 4  
**TIMELINE: UNRESOLVED LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS**

| Pre-76 | 76-80 | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 92 | 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 | <b>Total</b> |
|--------|-------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|--------------|
| 63     | 10    | 0  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 2  | 0  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 1  | <b>90</b>    |